
GOVERNMENT

Parliamentary Government

Scheme of parliamentary government

Under the Australian Constitution the legislative power of the Commonwealth of Australia is vested in the Parliament of the Commonwealth, which consists of the Queen, the Senate and the House of Representatives. The Queen is represented throughout the Commonwealth by the Governor-General. In each Australian State there is a State Governor, who is the representative of the Queen for the State. The Governor has such powers within the State as are conferred upon him by the Letters Patent constituting his office, and he exercises these powers in accordance with instructions issued to him by the Queen, detailing the manner in which his duties are to be fulfilled.

No Act of the Parliament of the United Kingdom passed after the commencement of the *Australia Act 1986* extends, or is deemed to extend, to the Commonwealth of Australia or to an Australian State or Territory as part of the law of the Commonwealth, of the State or of the Territory. Further, the restrictions that formerly existed on the legislative powers of the Parliaments of the States were removed by the Act.

In the Commonwealth Parliament the Upper House is known as the Senate, and in the bicameral State Parliaments as the Legislative Council. The Legislature in all States was bicameral until 1922 when the Queensland Parliament became unicameral upon the abolition of the Upper House. In the Commonwealth Parliament the Lower House is known as the House of Representatives; in the State Parliaments of New South Wales, Victoria and Western Australia as the Legislative Assembly; and in the State Parliaments of South Australia and Tasmania as the House of Assembly. The single House of Parliament in Queensland is known as the Legislative Assembly. The extent of the legislative powers of each of the seven Parliaments is defined by the Australian and State Constitutions respectively. In those States that have a bicameral legislature, the Legislative Assembly or House of Assembly, as the case may be, is the larger House.

The members of the Parliaments of each State are elected by the people, the franchise extending to Australian citizens who are at least 18 years of age and possess certain residential qualifications. For the Commonwealth Parliament the qualifications for the franchise are identical for both Houses, extending to Australian citizens and British subjects who are on the Commonwealth Electoral Roll and who are not less than 18 years of age.

The Sovereign

On 7 February 1952 the then Governor-General of the Commonwealth of Australia, acting with advice of members of the Federal Executive Council, proclaimed Princess Elizabeth as Queen Elizabeth the Second, Queen of this Realm and of all Her other Realms and Territories, Head of the Commonwealth, Defender of the Faith, Supreme Liege Lady in

and over the Commonwealth of Australia. The coronation of Her Majesty took place in Westminster Abbey on 2 June 1953. By the *Royal Style and Titles Act 1973*, which Her Majesty assented to in Canberra on 19 October 1973, the Commonwealth Parliament assented to the adoption by Her Majesty, for use in relation to Australia and its Territories, of the Style and Titles set out in the Schedule to that Act. On the same day, also in Canberra, Her Majesty issued a Proclamation, under the Great Seal of Australia, appointing and declaring that Her Majesty's Style and Titles should henceforth be, in relation to Australia and its Territories, 'Elizabeth the Second, by the Grace of God Queen of Australia and Her other Realms and Territories, Head of the Commonwealth'.

The Governor-General

Powers and functions

Under the Australian Constitution, the Governor-General exercises the executive power of the Commonwealth of Australia, and certain other powers and functions conferred by the Constitution that include, among others, the powers to appoint times for holding the sessions of the Parliament, to prorogue Parliament, and to dissolve the House of Representatives; to cause writs to be issued for general elections of members of the House of Representatives; to assent in the Queen's name to a proposed law passed by both Houses of the Parliament; to choose and summon Executive Councillors, who hold office during the Governor-General's pleasure; and to appoint Ministers of State for the Commonwealth of Australia. In addition, the commander-in-chief of the Defence Force of the Commonwealth of Australia is vested in the Governor-General as the Queen's representative.

Many Acts of the Commonwealth Parliament provide that the Governor-General may make regulations to give effect to the Acts. The Governor-General may also be authorised by statute to issue proclamations for example, to declare an Act in force. He has been given power by statute to legislate for certain of the Australian Territories. Under the provisions of the Constitution, as well as by the conventions of responsible government in British Commonwealth countries, the Governor-General's executive functions are exercised on the advice of Ministers of State.

The present Governor-General is His Excellency the Honourable William George Hayden AC, who replaced Sir Ninian Martin Stephen, AK, GCMG, GCVO, KBE on 16 February 1989.

Holders of office

Those persons who have held the office of Governor-General from the inception of the Commonwealth of Australia are pictured in *Year Book* No. 71.

Administrators

In addition to the holders of the office of Governor-General, certain persons have, from time to time, been appointed by the Queen to administer the Government of the Commonwealth of Australia. These persons are appointed in the event of the death, incapacity, removal from office or absence from Australia of the Governor-General.

Governors of the States

Powers and functions

The Queen is represented in each of the Australian States by a Governor, the office having been constituted by Letters Patent issued under the Great Seal of the United Kingdom on various dates. The Governors of the States exercise prerogative powers conferred on them by these Letters Patent, their commissions of appointment and the Governor's Instructions given them under the Royal Sign Manual and Signet or other instrument, as specified in the Letters Patent. In addition, they have been invested with various statutory functions by State Constitutions and the Commonwealth *Australia Act 1986*, as well as under the Acts of the Parliaments of the States.

A Governor of a State assents in the Queen's name to Bills passed by the Parliament of the State. Since the enactment of the Australia Act, an Act of Parliament of a State that has been assented to by the Governor of the State is no longer subject to disallowance by the Queen or suspension pending signification of the Queen's pleasure. The Governor administers the prerogative of mercy by the reprieve or pardon of criminal offenders within his jurisdiction, and may remit fines and penalties due to the Crown in right of the State. In the performance of his functions generally, particularly those conferred by statute, the Governor of a State acts on the advice of Ministers of State for the State.

STATE GOVERNORS, HOLDERS OF OFFICE, JUNE 1990

New South Wales	His Excellency REAR ADMIRAL PETER SINCLAIR, AO
Victoria	His Excellency DR DAVIS McCaughey, AC
Queensland	His Excellency the Honourable SIR WALTER BENJAMIN CAMPBELL, QC
Western Australia	His Excellency the Honourable SIR FRANCIS THEODORE PAGE BURT, AC, KCMG, QC
South Australia	His Excellency LT-GEN. SIR DONALD BEAUMONT DUNSTAN, KBE, CB
Tasmania	His Excellency GENERAL SIR PHILLIP BENNETT, AC, KBE, DSO

Commonwealth Government Ministries

The following list shows the name of each Commonwealth Government Ministry to hold office since 1 January 1901 and the limits of its term of office.

COMMONWEALTH GOVERNMENT MINISTRIES, 1901 TO 1990

(i)	BARTON MINISTRY	1 January 1901 to 24 September 1903
(ii)	DEAKIN MINISTRY	24 September 1903 to 27 April 1904
(iii)	WATSON MINISTRY	27 April 1904 to 17 August 1904
(iv)	REID-McLEAN MINISTRY	18 August 1904 to 5 July 1905
(v)	DEAKIN MINISTRY	5 July 1905 to 13 November 1908
(vi)	FISHER MINISTRY	13 November 1908 to 2 June 1909
(vii)	DEAKIN MINISTRY	2 June 1909 to 29 April 1910
(viii)	FISHER MINISTRY	29 April 1910 to 24 June 1913
(ix)	COOK MINISTRY	24 June 1913 to 17 September 1914
(x)	FISHER MINISTRY	17 September 1914 to 27 October 1915
(xi)	HUGHES MINISTRY	27 October 1915 to 14 November 1916
(xii)	HUGHES MINISTRY	14 November 1916 to 17 February 1917
(xiii)	HUGHES MINISTRY	17 February 1917 to 8 January 1918
(xiv)	HUGHES MINISTRY	10 January 1918 to 9 February 1923
(xv)	BRUCE-PAGE MINISTRY	9 February 1923 to 22 October 1929
(xvi)	SCULLIN MINISTRY	22 October 1929 to 6 January 1932
(xvii)	LYONS MINISTRY	6 January 1932 to 7 November 1938
(xviii)	LYONS MINISTRY	7 November 1938 to 7 April 1939
(xix)	PAGE MINISTRY	7 April 1939 to 26 April 1939
(xx)	MENZIES MINISTRY	26 April 1939 to 14 March 1940
(xxi)	MENZIES MINISTRY	14 March 1940 to 28 October 1940
(xxii)	MENZIES MINISTRY	28 October 1940 to 29 August 1941
(xxiii)	FADDEN MINISTRY	29 August 1941 to 7 October 1941
(xxiv)	CURTIN MINISTRY	7 October 1941 to 21 September 1943
(xxv)	CURTIN MINISTRY	21 September 1943 to 6 July 1945
(xxvi)	FORDE MINISTRY	6 July 1945 to 13 July 1945
(xxvii)	CHIFLEY MINISTRY	13 July 1945 to 1 November 1946
(xxviii)	CHIFLEY MINISTRY	1 November 1946 to 19 December 1949
(xxix)	MENZIES MINISTRY	19 December 1949 to 11 May 1951
(xxx)	MENZIES MINISTRY	11 May 1951 to 11 January 1956
(xxx1)	MENZIES MINISTRY	11 January 1956 to 10 December 1958
(xxx2)	MENZIES MINISTRY	10 December 1958 to 18 December 1963
(xxx3)	MENZIES MINISTRY	18 December 1963 to 26 January 1966
(xxx4)	HOLT MINISTRY	26 January 1966 to 14 December 1966
(xxx5)	HOLT MINISTRY	14 December 1966 to 19 December 1967
(xxx6)	McEWEN MINISTRY	19 December 1967 to 10 January 1968

COMMONWEALTH GOVERNMENT MINISTRIES, 1901 TO 1990—continued

(xxxvii)	GORTON MINISTRY	10 January 1968 to 28 February 1968
(xxxviii)	GORTON MINISTRY	28 February 1968 to 12 November 1969
(xxxix)	GORTON MINISTRY	12 November 1969 to 10 March 1971
(xl)	McMAHON MINISTRY	10 March 1971 to 5 December 1972
(xli)	WHITLAM MINISTRY	5 December 1972 to 19 December 1972
(xlii)	WHITLAM MINISTRY	19 December 1972 to 11 November 1975
(xliii)	FRASER MINISTRY	11 November 1975 to 22 December 1975
(xliv)	FRASER MINISTRY	22 December 1975 to 20 December 1977
(xlv)	FRASER MINISTRY	20 December 1977 to 3 November 1980
(xlvi)	FRASER MINISTRY	3 November 1980 to 7 May 1982
(xlvii)	FRASER MINISTRY	7 May 1982 to 11 March 1983
(xlviii)	HAWKE MINISTRY	11 March 1983 to 13 December 1984
(xlix)	HAWKE MINISTRY	13 December 1984 to 24 July 1987
(l)	HAWKE MINISTRY	24 July 1987 to 4 April 1990
(li)	HAWKE MINISTRY	4 April 1990

In *Year Book* No. 17, 1924, the names are given of each Ministry up to the Bruce–Page Ministry together with the names of the successive holders of portfolios therein. *Year Book* No. 39 contains a list which covers the period between 9 February 1923, the date on which the Bruce–Page Ministry assumed power, and 31 July 1951, showing the names of all persons who held office in each Ministry during that period. The names of members of subsequent Ministries are listed in issues of the *Year Book* from No. 39 to No. 61 inclusive, and in successive issues from No. 64.

This issue shows particulars of the Fourth Hawke Ministry (at June 1990).

LEADERS OF THE GOVERNMENT, JUNE 1990

Commonwealth	THE HON. R.J.L. HAWKE, AC, MP (VIC.) (ALP)
New South Wales	THE HON. N.F. GREINER, MLA (LP)
Victoria	THE HON. J. CAIN, MLA (ALP)
Queensland	THE HON. W.K. GOSS, MLA (ALP)
Western Australia	THE HON. C.M. LAWRENCE, MLA (ALP)
South Australia	THE HON. J.C. BANNON, MP (ALP)
Tasmania	THE HON. M.W. FIELD, MHA (ALP)
Northern Territory	THE HON. M. PERRON, MLA (CLP)
Australian Capital Territory	THE HON. T.T. KAINE, MLA (LP)

COMMONWEALTH GOVERNMENT

Fourth Hawke Ministry—at June 1990

* Prime Minister	THE HON. R.J.L. HAWKE, AC, MP
Parliamentary Secretary to the Prime Minister	THE HON. R.V. FREE, MP
* Deputy Prime Minister	THE HON. P.J. KEATING, MP
Treasurer	
Minister Assisting the Prime Minister for Commonwealth–State Relations	
Parliamentary Secretary to the Treasurer	SENATOR THE HON. R.F. MCMULLAN
* Leader of the Government in the Senate	SENATOR THE HON. J.N. BUTTON
Minister for Industry, Technology and Commerce	
Minister for Science and Technology,	THE HON. S.F. CREAN, MP
Minister Assisting the Prime Minister for Science	
Minister Assisting the Treasurer	

NOTE: * Minister in the Cabinet

COMMONWEALTH GOVERNMENT

Fourth Hawke Ministry—at June 1990—*continued*

* Deputy Leader of the Government in the Senate Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade	SENATOR THE HON. G.J. EVANS, QC
* Minister for Trade Negotiations Minister Assisting the Minister for Industry, Technology and Commerce Minister Assisting the Minister for Primary Industries and Energy	THE HON. N. BLEWETT, MP
* Minister for Finance	THE HON. R. WILLIS, MP
* Attorney-General Minister for Justice and Consumer Affairs	THE HON. M.J. DUFFY, MP SENATOR THE HON. M.C. TATE
* Minister for Employment, Education and Training Minister for Employment and Education Services Minister for Aboriginal Affairs	THE HON. J.S. DAWKINS, MP THE HON. P.J. BALDWIN, MP THE HON. R.E. TICKNER, MP
* Minister for Transport and Communications Vice-President of the Executive Council Leader of the House Minister for Shipping Minister Assisting the Prime Minister for Northern Australia Minister for Land Transport Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Transport and Communications	THE HON. K.C. BEAZLEY, MP SENATOR THE HON. R.L. COLLINS THE HON. R.J. BROWN, MP THE HON. W.E. SNOWDON, MP
* Minister for Primary Industries and Energy Minister for Resources	THE HON. J.C. KERIN, MP THE HON. A.G. GRIFFITHS, MP
* Minister for Community Services and Health Minister Assisting the Prime Minister for Social Justice Minister for Housing and Aged Care Minister for Veterans' Affairs	THE HON. B.L. HOWE, MP THE HON. P.R. STAPLES, MP THE HON. B.C. HUMPHREYS, MP
* Minister for Social Security Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Social Security	SENATOR THE HON. G.F. RICHARDSON THE HON. C. SCIACCA, MP
* Minister for Defence Manager of Government Business in the Senate Minister for Defence Science and Personnel	SENATOR THE HON. R.F. RAY THE HON. G.N. BILNEY, MP
* Minister for Immigration, Local Government and Ethnic Affairs Minister Assisting the Prime Minister for Multicultural Affairs Minister for Local Government and Minister Assisting the Prime Minister for the Status of Women	THE HON. G.L. HAND, MP THE HON. W.F. FATIN, MP
* Minister for the Arts, Sport, the Environment, Tourism and Territories Minister for the Arts, Tourism and Territories	THE HON. R.J. KELLY, MP THE HON. D.W. SIMMONS, MP
* Minister for Industrial Relations Minister Assisting the Prime Minister for Public Service Matters	SENATOR THE HON. P.F.S. COOK
* Minister for Administrative Services	SENATOR THE HON. N. BOLKUS

NOTE: * Minister in the Cabinet

The Leader of the Opposition plays an important part in the Party system of government which operates in the Australian Parliaments. The following list gives the names of the holders of this position in each of the Parliaments as at June 1990.

LEADERS OF THE OPPOSITION, JUNE 1990

Commonwealth	DR J.R. HEWSON, MP (LP)
New South Wales	R.J. CARR, MLA (ALP)
Victoria	THE HON. A.J. BROWN, MLA (LP)
Queensland	THE HON. R. COOPER, MLA (NP)
Western Australia	THE HON. B.J. MACKINNON, MLA (LP)
South Australia	D.S. BAKER, MHA (LP)
Tasmania	THE HON. R.T. GRAY, MHA (LP)
Northern Territory	T.E. SMITH, MLA (ALP)
Australian Capital Territory	THE HON. R. FOLLETT, MLA (ALP)

Numbers and salaries of Commonwealth Government Ministers

Under sections 65 and 66, respectively, of the Australian Constitution the number of Ministers of State was not to exceed seven, and the annual sum payable for their salaries was not to exceed £12,000, each provision to operate, however, 'until the Parliament otherwise provides'.

Subsequently, the number and salaries have increased from time to time, and as at 1 July 1990 the number of Ministers was 29 and ministerial salaries ranged from \$93,838 for the Prime Minister, \$60,885 for the Deputy Prime Minister, \$49,623 for the Treasurer and for the Leader of the Government in the Senate, \$44,038 for the Leader of the House, and \$41,032 for a Minister other than the above. Where more than one office is held only one salary is payable, that being the higher salary.

All amounts shown in the foregoing paragraphs are in addition to amounts payable as Parliamentary salaries and allowances.

Parliaments and Elections

The Commonwealth Parliaments

The first Parliament of the Commonwealth of Australia was convened by proclamation dated 29 April 1901 by His Excellency the Marquis of Linlithgow, then Earl of Hopetoun, Governor-General. It was opened on 9 May 1901 by HRH the Duke of Cornwall and York. The Rt Hon. Sir Edmund Barton, GCMG, KC, was Prime Minister.

The following table shows the number and duration of Parliaments since Federation.

COMMONWEALTH PARLIAMENTS

<i>Number of Parliament</i>	<i>Date of opening</i>	<i>Date of dissolution</i>
First	9 May 1901	23 November 1903
Second	2 March 1904	5 November 1906
Third	20 February 1907	19 February 1910
Fourth	1 July 1910	23 April 1913
Fifth	9 July 1913	30 July 1914 (a)
Sixth	8 October 1914	26 March 1917
Seventh	14 June 1917	3 November 1919
Eighth	26 February 1920	6 November 1922
Ninth	28 February 1923	3 October 1925
Tenth	13 January 1926	9 October 1928
Eleventh	6 February 1929	16 September 1929
Twelfth	20 November 1929	27 November 1931
Thirteenth	17 February 1932	7 August 1934

For footnotes see end of table.

COMMONWEALTH PARLIAMENTS—*continued*

<i>Number of Parliament</i>	<i>Date of opening</i>	<i>Date of dissolution</i>
Fourteenth	23 October 1934	21 September 1937
Fifteenth	30 November 1937	27 August 1940
Sixteenth	20 November 1940	7 July 1943
Seventeenth	23 September 1943	16 August 1946
Eighteenth	6 November 1946	31 October 1949
Nineteenth	22 February 1950	19 March 1951 (a)
Twentieth	12 June 1951	21 April 1954
Twenty-first	4 August 1954	4 November 1955
Twenty-second	15 February 1956	14 October 1958
Twenty-third	17 February 1959	2 November 1961
Twenty-fourth	20 February 1962	1 November 1963
Twenty-fifth	25 February 1964	31 October 1966
Twenty-sixth	21 February 1967	29 September 1969
Twenty-seventh	25 November 1969	2 November 1972
Twenty-eighth	27 February 1973	11 April 1974 (a)
Twenty-ninth	9 July 1974	11 November 1975 (a)
Thirtieth	17 February 1976	8 November 1977
Thirty-first	21 February 1978	19 September 1980
Thirty-second	25 November 1980	4 February 1983 (a)
Thirty-third	21 April 1983	26 October 1984
Thirty-fourth	21 February 1985	5 June 1987 (a)
Thirty-fifth	14 September 1987	19 February 1990
Thirty-sixth	8 May 1990	—

(a) A dissolution of both the Senate and the House of Representatives was granted by the Governor-General under section 57 of the Constitution.

The thirty-fifth Parliament opened on 14 September 1987 and ended on 19 February 1990 when the House of Representatives was dissolved. Writs were issued by the Governor-General on 19 February 1990 for elections in all States and Territories. The election was announced for 24 March 1990. The thirty-sixth Parliament opened on 8 May 1990.

Qualifications for membership and for franchise—Commonwealth Parliament

Any Australian citizen, 18 years of age or over and who is, or is qualified to become, an elector of the Commonwealth Parliament is qualified for membership of either house of the Commonwealth Parliament. Any Australian citizen (or British subject who was on the Commonwealth Roll as at 25 January 1984) over 18 years of age is qualified to enrol and vote at federal elections. Residence in a subdivision for a period of one month before enrolment is necessary to enable a qualified person to enrol. Enrolment and voting are compulsory for all eligible persons.

The principal reasons for disqualification of persons otherwise eligible for election as members of either Commonwealth House are: membership of the other House; allegiance to a foreign power; being attainted of treason; being convicted and under sentence for any offence punishable by imprisonment for one year or longer; being an undischarged bankrupt or insolvent; holding an office of profit under the Crown (with certain exceptions); or having a pecuniary interest in any agreement with the public service of the Commonwealth except as a member of an incorporated company of more than 25 persons. Persons convicted of treason and not pardoned, or convicted and under sentence for any offence punishable by imprisonment for five years or longer, or of unsound mind, or persons who are holders of temporary entry permits under the *Migration Act 1958* or are prohibited non-citizens under that Act, are excluded from enrolment and voting.

Commonwealth Parliaments and elections

From the establishment of the Commonwealth of Australia until 1949 the Senate consisted of 36 members, 6 being returned by each of the original federating States. The Australian Constitution empowers the Commonwealth Parliament to increase or decrease the size of

the Parliament, and, as the population of Australia had more than doubled since its inception, the Parliament passed the *Representation Act 1948* which provided that there should be 10 Senators from each State instead of six, thus increasing the total to 60 Senators, enlarging both Houses of Parliament and providing a representation ratio nearer to the proportion which existed at Federation. The *Representation Act 1983* further provided for 12 Senators for each State from the first meeting of the thirty-fourth Parliament.

The *Senate (Representation of Territories) Act 1973* made provision for two Senators to be elected from both the Northern Territory and the Australian Capital Territory. Elections for the Territory Senators are held at the same time as general elections for the House of Representatives.

In accordance with the Constitution, the total number of State Members of the House of Representatives must be as nearly as practicable twice the total number of State Senators. Consequent upon the increase in the size of the Senate in 1949, the number of State Members was increased from 74 to 121. In 1955 there were 122 State Members; in 1969, 123; in 1974, 124; in 1977, 121; in 1980, 122. From the first meeting of the thirty-fourth Parliament, there was a further increase of 23 to 145 State Members flowing from the increase in the number of State Senators to 72.

Redistribution of the States into electoral divisions has taken place in 1949, 1955, 1968, 1974 (Western Australia only), 1977, 1979 (Western Australia only), 1984, and 1988 (Victoria and Western Australia only). The quota (or average number) of electors is the basis for electoral distribution. The Redistribution Committee may vary the enrolment of electorates by up to 10 per cent in order to achieve equality in enrolment midway between redistributions and to take account of economic, social and regional interests, means of communication and travel, the trend of population changes, physical features and area, and existing boundaries of electoral divisions.

The Electoral Commissioner determines the representation entitlements of the States during the tenth month of the life of each Parliament. Determinations are based on the latest population statistics as provided by the Australian Statistician. Should the representation entitlement of a State change, a redistribution is mandatory. The representation entitlements of the States at the three most recent determinations are shown in the following table.

REPRESENTATION ENTITLEMENTS OF THE STATES

State	1981	1984	1988
New South Wales	43	51	51
Victoria	33	39	38
Queensland	19	24	24
South Australia	11	13	13
Western Australia	11	13	14
Tasmania	5	5	5
Total	122	145	145

From 1922 to 1968 the Northern Territory was represented in a limited capacity by one member in the House of Representatives. In May 1968 the *Northern Territory Representation Act 1922* was amended to give full voting rights to the Member for the Northern Territory effective from 15 May 1968, the day on which the Act received Royal assent.

From 1948 to 1967 the Australian Capital Territory was represented in a limited capacity by one member in the House of Representatives. The Member for the Australian Capital Territory was granted full voting rights on 21 February 1967.

Following the passing of the *Australian Capital Territory Representation (House of Representatives) Act 1973* the Australian Capital Territory was divided into two electoral divisions.

Members of the House of Representatives are elected for the duration of the Parliament, which is limited to three years. At elections for Senators the whole State constitutes the electorate. For the purpose of elections for the House of Representatives the State is divided into single electorates corresponding in number to the number of members to which the State is entitled.

In 1948, amendments to the *Commonwealth Electoral Act 1918* changed the system of scrutiny and counting of votes in Senate elections from the alternative vote to that of proportional representation. The method of voting for both the Senate and the House of Representatives is preferential.

Particulars of voting at Senate elections and elections for the House of Representatives up to 1984 appear in earlier issues of the *Year Book*. Additional information is available in the *Election Statistics* issued by the Electoral Commissioner following each election and printed as Parliamentary Papers.

The numbers of electors and of primary votes cast for the major political parties in each State and Territory at the latest election for each House of the Commonwealth Parliament were as follows:

COMMONWEALTH PARLIAMENT ELECTIONS, 24 MARCH 1990

	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Australia
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES									
Electors enrolled	3,630,841	2,781,547	1,805,141	966,431	982,901	310,076	78,994	172,200	10,728,131
Number of votes recorded for—									
Australian Labor Party	1,380,780	951,674	695,291	339,218	316,186	115,053	34,106	71,830	3,904,138
Liberal Party	975,083	1,018,740	476,560	381,172	392,870	140,722	..	55,755	3,440,902
National Party	377,687	154,069	280,120	..	21,681	..	..	..	833,557
Country National Party	..	..	..	..	..	..	27,668	..	27,668
Australian Democrats	342,540	319,149	193,817	135,546	75,197	24,876	..	23,091	1,114,216
Call to Australia	21,646	52,554	..	22,297	..	..	..	..	96,497
Others	256,935	70,944	25,809	15,521	88,765	8,853	6,483	9,386	482,696
<i>Formal votes</i>	<i>3,354,671</i>	<i>2,567,130</i>	<i>1,671,597</i>	<i>893,754</i>	<i>894,699</i>	<i>289,504</i>	<i>68,257</i>	<i>160,062</i>	<i>9,899,674</i>
Informal votes	108,134	94,334	38,065	34,143	34,418	9,774	2,387	4,871	326,126
Total votes recorded	3,462,805	2,661,464	1,709,662	927,897	929,117	299,278	70,644	164,933	10,225,800
SENATE									
Electors enrolled	3,630,841	2,781,547	1,805,141	966,431	982,901	310,076	78,994	172,200	10,728,131
Number of votes recorded for—									
Australian Labor Party	1,356,430	938,245	653,070	337,137	304,632	120,195	37,343	66,495	3,813,547
Liberal Party	..	..	490,523	376,073	392,820	128,374	..	58,082	1,445,872
National Party	..	..	227,696	3,667	26,801	..	..	..	258,164
Liberal-National Party	1,280,382	1,149,170	..	..	..	..	..	..	2,429,552
Country Liberal Party	..	..	..	..	..	..	29,045	..	29,045
Australian Democrats	393,521	365,376	209,030	149,158	85,324	22,888	..	28,510	1,253,807
Call to Australia	69,744	29,608	18,469	18,701	..	..	..	..	136,522
Western Australian Green Party	..	..	..	..	76,381	..	..	..	76,381
Environment Independents	27,046	16,655	30,967	..	..	..	..	..	74,668
Others	211,019	80,466	44,441	23,387	22,140	19,835	2,335	8,584	412,207
<i>Formal votes</i>	<i>3,338,142</i>	<i>2,579,520</i>	<i>1,674,196</i>	<i>908,123</i>	<i>908,098</i>	<i>291,292</i>	<i>68,723</i>	<i>161,671</i>	<i>9,929,765</i>
Informal votes	145,429	96,171	42,112	23,438	26,733	9,300	1,977	3,905	349,065
Total votes recorded	3,483,571	2,675,691	1,716,308	931,561	934,831	300,592	70,700	165,576	10,278,830

The state of the parties in each House at the commencement of the thirty-sixth Parliament was: Senate (after 1 July 1990)—Australian Labor Party 32; Liberal Party of Australia 29; National Party of Australia 5; Australian Democrats 8; Independents 2; House of Representatives—Australian Labor Party 78; Liberal Party of Australia 55; National Party of Australia 14; Independents 1.

Parliamentary salaries and allowances

The basic salary payable to a Senator or Member of the House of Representatives was \$58,300 at 1 July 1990. In addition, Senators or Members receive an electoral allowance of \$22,685 in the case of a Senator or a Member representing an electorate of less than 2,000 square kilometres, \$26,975 in the case of a Member representing an electorate of 2,000 square kilometres or more, but less than 5,000 square kilometres, or \$32,895 in the case of a Member representing an electorate of 5,000 square kilometres or more.

Referendums

In accordance with section 128 of the Constitution, any proposed law for the alteration of the Constitution, in addition to being passed by an absolute majority of each House of Parliament, must be submitted to a referendum of the electors in each State and Territory and must be approved by a majority of the electors in a majority of the States and by a majority of all the voters who voted before it can be presented for Royal assent.

Since 1901, 42 proposals have been submitted to referendums and the consent of the electors has been received in eight cases: the first in relation to the election of Senators in 1906, the second and third in respect of State Debts—one in 1910 and the other in 1928, the fourth in respect of Social Services in 1946 and the fifth in respect of Aborigines in 1967. The remaining three proposals in relation respectively to Senate casual vacancies, maximum retirement age for justices of the High Court and judges of other Federal Courts, and the right of electors in the Territories to vote in referendums for the alteration of the Constitution, were approved in May 1977. In addition to referendums for alterations of the Constitution, other Commonwealth referendums have been held—two prior to Federation regarding the proposed Constitution and two regarding military service during the 1914–1918 War. A National song poll was held on 21 May 1977. Voting was preferential and after the distribution of preferences *Advance Australia Fair* became the National song of Australia.

For further details of referendums see *Year Book* No. 52, pages 66–68, *Year Book* No. 60, pages 90–91, *Year Book* No. 62, pages 72–73 and *Year Book* No. 70, pages 55–56.

The Parliaments of the States

This section contains summarised information; for greater detail refer to *State Year Books*.

STATE OF THE PARTIES IN COMMONWEALTH AND STATE PARLIAMENTS JULY 1990

Commonwealth			
<i>House of Representatives—</i>		<i>Senate—</i>	
ALP	78	ALP	32
LP	55	LP	29
NPA	14	AD	8
IND	1	NPA	5
		IND	2
New South Wales			
<i>Legislative Assembly—</i>		<i>Legislative Council—</i>	
ALP	43	ALP	21
LP	39	LP	12
NPA	20	NPA	7
IND	7	IND	3
		AD	2
Victoria			
<i>Legislative Assembly—</i>		<i>Legislative Council—</i>	
ALP	46	ALP	18
LP	33	LP	19
NPA	9	NPA	6
		IND	1
Queensland			
<i>Legislative Assembly—</i>			
ALP	54		
NPA	26		
LP	9		
South Australia			
<i>House of Assembly—</i>		<i>Legislative Council—</i>	
ALP	22	ALP	10
LP	22	LP	10
NPA	1	AD	2
IND	2		
Western Australia			
<i>Legislative Assembly—</i>		<i>Legislative Council—</i>	
ALP	31	ALP	16
LP	20	LP	15
NPA	6	NPA	3
Tasmania			
<i>House of Assembly—</i>		<i>Legislative Council—</i>	
LP	17	ALP	1
ALP	13	IND	18
IND	5		
Northern Territory			
<i>Legislative Assembly—</i>			
CLP	14		
ALP	7		
IND	2		
NTNP	2		
Australian Capital Territory			
<i>Legislative Assembly—</i>			
ALP	5		
LP	4		
RR	3		
IG	3		
ASGC	1		
IND	1		

NOTE: Explanation of abbreviations:

AD—Australian Democrats; ALP—Australian Labor Party; ASGC—Abolish Self-Government Coalition; CLP—Country-Liberal Party; IND—Independent; IG—Independents' Group; LP—Liberal Party; NDP—Nuclear Disarmament Party; NPA—National Party of Australia; NTNP—Northern Territory National Party; RR—Residents Rally.

Acts of the Commonwealth Parliaments

In the Commonwealth Parliament all laws are enacted in the name of the Sovereign, the Senate, and the House of Representatives. The subjects with respect to which the Commonwealth Parliament is empowered to make laws are enumerated in the Australian Constitution. In all States, other than South Australia and Tasmania, laws are enacted in the name of the Sovereign by and with the consent of the Legislative Council (except in Queensland) and Legislative Assembly. In South Australia and Tasmania laws are enacted in the name of the Governor of the State, with the advice and consent of the Parliament in the case of South Australia, and of the Legislative Council and House of Assembly in the case of Tasmania. Generally, assent to Bills passed by the Legislatures is given by the Governor-General or State Governor acting on behalf of, and in the name of, the Sovereign. In certain special cases Bills are reserved for the Royal assent. The Parliaments of the States are empowered generally, subject to the Australian Constitution, to make laws in and for their respective States in all cases whatsoever. The power of the States to make laws was enhanced in 1986 by the enactment by the Commonwealth Parliament of the *Australia Act 1986* and the accompanying *Australia (Request and Consent) Act 1986*. Subject to certain limitations they may alter, repeal, or vary their Constitutions. Where a law of a State is inconsistent with a law of the Commonwealth Parliament, the latter law prevails and the former law is, to the extent of the inconsistency, invalid.

The enactment of Commonwealth Parliament legislation

The legislation passed by the Commonwealth Parliament between 1901 and 1973, and which was then still in operation, was published in a consolidated form entitled *Acts of the Parliament 1901-1973*. Since 1974, annual volumes of Acts have also been published. The consolidation contains a chronological table of Acts passed from 1901 to 1973, showing how they are affected by subsequent legislation or lapse of time, together with a table of legislation of the Commonwealth Parliament passed between 1901 and 1973 in relation to the several provisions of the Australian Constitution. Reference should be made to these for complete information.

In 1989 the number of enactments of the Commonwealth Parliament was 183.

National Anthem and Colours of Australia

Details of the official proclamation issued on 19 April 1984 are as follows:

His Excellency, the Governor-General of the Commonwealth of Australia, issued the following Proclamation on 19 April 1984:

I, SIR NINIAN MARTIN STEPHEN,
Governor-General of the Commonwealth of
Australia, acting with the advice of the Federal
Executive Council, hereby declare:

- (a) that the anthem 'God Save The Queen' shall henceforth be known as the Royal Anthem and be used in the presence of Her Majesty The Queen or a member of the Royal Family;
- (b) that the National Anthem shall consist of the tune known as 'Advance Australia Fair' with the following words:

*Australians all let us rejoice,
For we are young and free,
We've golden soil and wealth for toil;*

*Our home is girt by sea;
Our land abounds in nature's gifts
Of beauty rich and rare,
In history's page, let every stage
Advance Australia Fair.
In joyful strains then let us sing,
Advance Australia Fair.*

*Beneath our radiant Southern Cross
We'll toil with hearts and hands;
To make this Commonwealth of ours
Renowned of all the lands;
For those who've come across the seas
We've boundless plains to share;
With courage let us all combine
To Advance Australia Fair.
In joyful strains then let us sing,
Advance Australia Fair.*

- (c) that the Vice-Regal Salute to be used in the presence of His Excellency The Governor-General shall consist of the first four bars and the last four bars of the tune known as 'Advance Australia Fair';
- (d) that the National Anthem shall be used on all official and ceremonial occasions, other than occasions on which either the Royal Anthem or the Vice-Regal Salute is used; and
- (e) that green and gold (Pantone Matching System numbers 116C and 348C as used for printing on paper) shall be the national colours of Australia for use on all occasions on which such colours are customarily used.